

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 84 through 95 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

1-69. (Canceled)

70. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for communicating with a camera, the camera being controllable from each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said apparatus comprising:

a connecting device adapted to connect to the camera; and
a control device adapted to inhibit others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera in the case that one of the plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera through the communication system.

71. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 70, wherein the control apparatus controls each of a plurality of cameras through the communication system.

72. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 70, wherein the control apparatus comprises a designation device adapted to designate a desired image on a screen of a display device.

73. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 70, wherein said control device inhibits another control apparatus from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time.

74. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 73, wherein said control device releases the other control apparatus from being inhibited from controlling the camera after the predetermined period of time has lapsed.

75. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 73, wherein the control apparatus comprises a display device adapted to display a time at which the control of the camera is inhibited.

76. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 70, wherein the control apparatus comprises a display device adapted to display that the one of said plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera, when the control of the camera is inhibited.

77. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling a camera, wherein the camera is controllable by each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said method comprising the steps of:

controlling the camera through the communication system with one of the plurality control apparatuses; and

inhibiting the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera through the communication system in the case that the camera is controlled by the one of the plurality of control apparatuses through the communication system.

78. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 77, wherein a plurality of cameras are controllable through the communication system, and wherein said controlling step comprises a step of controlling the plurality of cameras, through the communication system, by the one of the control apparatuses.

79. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 77, further comprising a step of displaying a plurality of images on the screen, and a step of designating one of the images displayed on the screen.

80. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 77, wherein said inhibiting step comprises a step of inhibiting the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time.

81. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 80, further comprising a step of releasing the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from being inhibited from controlling the camera after the predetermined period of time has lapsed.

82. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 77, further comprising a step of displaying an indication that the camera is controlled by the one of the plurality of control apparatuses in a case where the control of the camera is inhibited.

83. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 80, further comprising a step of displaying the predetermined period of time.

84-95. (Cancelled)